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FLOOR DEBATE

January 31, 2003 LB 357, 358

counties, some of these funds would be used to either buy new hardware or to find software that would work with the Secretary of State's computerized system. I don't think those would be huge expenditures. If you will look at the fiscal note, you will see that for expenditures in the year 2004-2005, and it says of other funds but it's envisioned that would be federal funds, it's about a \$2 million price tag, and that includes, I believe, what is envisioned for this implementation of the computerized system. In conclusion, I guess I would like to address what Senator Beutler just said regarding there don't seem to be any penalties for our not doing this mandate. And I would caution you that I believe the penalties could be pretty severe in terms of monetary penalties. In other words, if we don't do it then undoubtedly we may not get any of the money. And I don't know if you remember, some of you remember the whole child support thing where we actually got fined for not implementing as soon as the federal government told us to. So I think that I feel comfortable in saying to you I think that we should move this bill forward. I don't think that there's any rush on it during the session, but I think that we need to do it this session, and I'm very comfortable with letting it rest on Final Reading before we actually take a vote on it. So, with that, Mr. President, I would just simply move that we advance this to E & R Initial.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Thank you, Senator Schimek. The question is the advancement of LB 357 to E & R Initial. All those in favor vote aye; those opposed vote nay. Please record, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: 28 ayes, 2 nays, Mr. President, on the advancement of LB 357.

PRESIDENT HEINEMAN: Bill is advanced. Next item, Mr. Clerk.

CLERK: LB 358 by the Government Committee and signed by its members. (Read title.) Bill was introduced on January 14 of this year, referred to the Government Committee. Bill was advanced to General File. I have no amendments at this time, Mr. President.